GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:48
ANSWERED ON:02.12.2015
Development Projects by China
Kaswan Shri Rahul

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

a) whether the Government has taken note of various development projects by China including road and railway network along Indian border;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;

(c) whether the Government is aware that China is considering to construct a tunnel under the Mount Everest to expand its rail connectivity upto Nepal and if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether the Government has made any assessment of the said project by China and if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
(SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ)

(a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 48 REGARDING "DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS BY CHINA" FOR ANSWER ON 02.12.2015

(a) to (d) Government is aware that China continues to undertake large scale development projects including construction of highways, railways and high speed rail corridors in Chinese Provinces which are bordering India. China is involved in the construction of or assistance to infrastructure projects in our neighborhood including in Bangladesh, Maldives, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka. These infrastructure projects include power projects, IT projects, housing projects, nuclear energy projects, and construction of highways, motorways, railways, sea and air ports, export processing zones and economic corridors.

Government has seen media reports that China plans to extend its rail link to Nepal which might involve building a tunnel under Mount Everest. Full financial and technical details of the proposal have not come to the attention of the Government.

India is an active development partner of its neighbours and is involved in various projects in these countries. India's relations with other countries stand on their own footing and are independent of the relations of those countries with third countries. India is working with its neighbouring countries, including China, to enhance road, rail, air and shipping connectivity in the region.